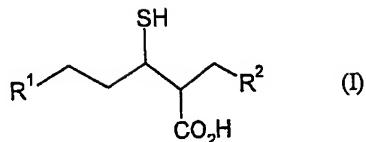


CLAIMS1. A compound of formula (I):

wherein:

5 R^1 is phenyl {optionally substituted by halogen, hydroxy, cyano, C_{1-4} alkyl (itself
optionally mono-substituted by cyano, hydroxy or phenyl), C_{1-4} alkoxy (itself
optionally substituted by tetrahydrofuryl), CF_3 , OCF_3 , methylenedioxy, $C(O)R^3$,
 $S(O)_2R^4$, phenyl (itself optionally substituted by halogen), phenoxy (itself
optionally substituted by halogen) or tetrahydrofuryloxy}, naphthyl, pyridinyl,
10 1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidin-2,4-dione-yl (optionally substituted by C_{1-4} alkyl) or
tetrahydrothienyl;

15 R^2 is aminopyridinyl, aminothiazolyl or 3-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octyl;
 R^3 is hydroxy, C_{1-4} alkoxy (itself optionally substituted by phenyl (itself optionally
substituted by halogen) or pyridinyl), NR^5R^6 or an N-linked 5- or 6-membered
heterocyclic ring {unsubstituted or mono-substituted by hydroxy, oxo, C_{1-4} alkyl
(itself optionally substituted by hydroxy or NH phenyl), $CO_2(C_{1-4}$ alkyl) or phenyl
(itself optionally substituted by halogen)};

20 R^4 is NR^7R^8 or an N-linked 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring {unsubstituted;
mono-substituted by hydroxy, oxo, C_{1-4} alkyl (itself optionally substituted by
hydroxy or NH phenyl), $CO_2(C_{1-4}$ alkyl) or phenyl (itself optionally substituted by
 C_{1-4} alkyl); or fused to a benzene ring which is optionally substituted by C_{1-4}
alkoxy};

25 R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^8 are, independently, hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl {optionally substituted
by halogen, cyano, hydroxy, phenyl (itself optionally substituted by halogen or
methylenedioxy), pyridinyl, CO_2H or $CO_2(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)} or C_{2-4} alkenyl;
provided that when R^1 is 6-aminopyridin-3-yl then R^2 is substituted phenyl,
naphthyl, pyridinyl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidin-2,4-dione-yl (optionally
substituted by C_{1-4} alkyl) or tetrahydrothienyl;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, or a solvate of such a salt.

2. A compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 wherein R¹ is phenyl {optionally substituted by halogen, hydroxy, cyano, C₁₋₄ alkyl (itself optionally mono-substituted by cyano or hydroxy), C₁₋₄ alkoxy, CF₃, OCF₃, methylenedioxy, 5 C(O)NH₂, S(O)₂NH₂ or phenyl (itself optionally substituted by halogen)}, pyridinyl or tetrahydrothienyl.

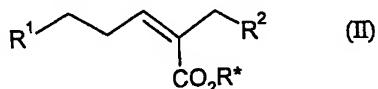
3. A compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 wherein R¹ is phenyl {optionally substituted by halogen, hydroxy, cyano, C₁₋₄ alkyl (itself optionally mono-substituted by cyano, hydroxy or phenyl), C₁₋₄ alkoxy, CF₃, OCF₃, methylenedioxy, 10 phenoxy (itself optionally substituted by halogen), tetrahydrofuryloxy or tetrahydrofuranylmethoxy}, naphthyl, pyridinyl or tetrahydrothienyl.

4. A compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 wherein R¹ is phenyl {substituted by halogen, hydroxy, cyano, C₁₋₄ alkyl (itself optionally mono-substituted by cyano, 15 hydroxy), C₁₋₄ alkoxy, CF₃ or methylenedioxy} or tetrahydrothiophenyl.

5. A compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1, 2, 3 or 4 wherein R² is 6-aminopyridin-3-yl, 2-aminothiazol-5-yl or 3-azabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-8-yl.

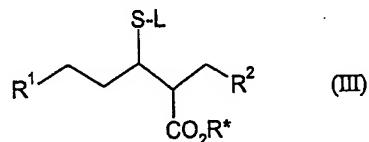
20 6. A compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1, 2, 3 or 4 wherein R² is 6-aminopyridin-3-yl.

7. A process for preparing a compound of formula (I) comprising reacting a 25 compound of formula (II):



wherein R¹ is as defined in claim 1 or includes a group that can be subsequently reacted to form the group R¹, R* is a suitable protecting group and R² is as defined in claim 1 or the amine function of R² can be protected, with a thiol of formula L-

SH, wherein L is a suitable protecting group, in the presence of a suitable catalyst and in a suitable solvent, to form a compound of formula (III):



and, optionally reacting the functional group on R^1 , and subsequently removing the 5 protecting groups as necessary.

8. A pharmaceutical formulation containing a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6 as active ingredient in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.
9. The use of a compound as claimed in claim 1 in therapy.
10. The use of a compound as claimed in claim 1 for the manufacture of a medicament for the inhibition of carboxypeptidase U.
11. A method for treatment or prophylaxis of conditions where inhibition of carboxypeptidase U is beneficial, comprising administering to a mammal, including man, in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound as claimed in claim 1.
12. A pharmaceutical formulation for use in the treatment or prophylaxis of conditions where inhibition of carboxypeptidase U is beneficial, comprising a compound as claimed in claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.